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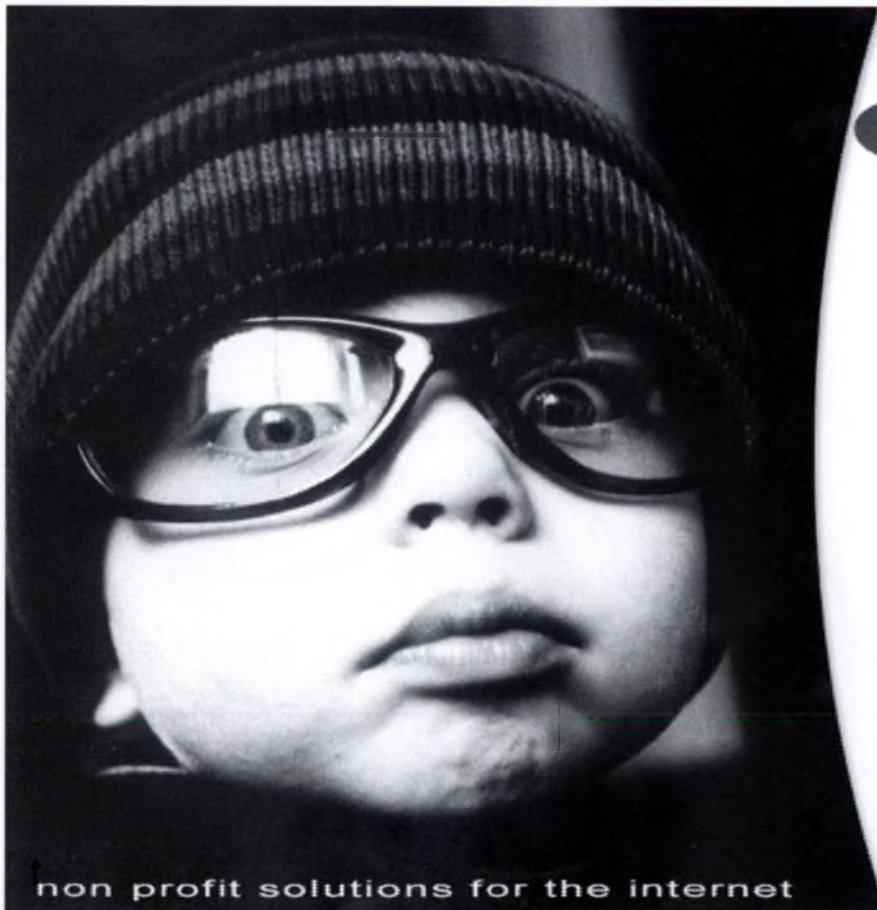


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My THOUGHTS ON 2003:

We are the Worst Species

Homo sapiens, as my wife constantly says, is the worst species on Planet Earth — violent, self-destructive, selfish, greedy, prone to self-delusion, utterly careless about other species and their space, and insouciant about our common right, on Planet Earth, to continue to exist.

I have been alive for seven decades, some of the most violent in recorded history, during which only occasionally has one has been encouraged to be hopeful about our species and its future. Of course, from time to time, one is overtaken by the sheer beauty of life and the moments it offers, but I have lived long enough to learn that even these usually have their downsides, as the Chinese remind us, with their theories of Yin and Yang (Yin representing negativity, Yang positivity, everything being inhabited by each of these).

The other night I listened to a wonderful concert on television of Richard Rodgers' music. I was thinking that the United States has given us this, as well as its current political excrescence, which seems so grave a threat to the world. But when they got on to *Oklahoma!*, I couldn't help but think: this music has sanitized the image of Oklahoma and the United States, and has spread that sanitized image throughout the world's cultures, obscuring the fact that Oklahoma was once the home of all Aboriginal peoples gathered from east of the Mississippi, and that these people were brutally driven out. It is at this sort of sanitizing that the United States culture has shown itself so expert.

This reminds me of the recent death of Dee Brown, author of the mind-blowing Indian history of the US, *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*. This book, published in 1971, established forever in my mind the image of the United States as a nation built on lies and betrayals: it tells of treaties that were no sooner signed by the United States government authority than abrogated. Indeed, in a forthcoming book, Alberta academic Tony Hall argues that the United States used the Indian populations to perfect the techniques of betrayal and unilateral use of force that they have since used in their approach to the rest of the world, techniques that they are in the process of polishing at the moment under the leadership of the appalling George W. Bush. Brown's death has been greeted throughout Indian Country as

"the loss of a good friend."

Of the many defects of homo sapiens enumerated above, there is no doubt in my mind that the greatest is our insistence on occupying the habitat that other species depend upon: our constantly increasing population is to blame for that. We have, as a species, shown no appreciation of the need to maintain ourselves in balance with all Life. How does one explain the refusal of the world's wealthiest agency, the United States government, to support the efforts of Planned Parenthood and other international agencies, to limit population growth? (I have the answer: one explains it by the persistence of religious superstitions, even among the most highly educated people).

The National Audubon Society's Web site at www.audubonpopulation.org/sections/pubsvids/facts.cfm gives the facts about this population growth. It shows that since Jan. 1 of this year (a mere six days as of this writing), the global population has increased by almost 1.1 million people, that 425,000 acres of forest have been lost in those six days, that 5.8 million tons of topsoil have been lost in those six days, and that nearly 67 million tons of oil have been consumed in those six days. The scariest of these statistics is the loss of topsoil: a few years ago when I was investigating this subject, I discovered that the Canadian Department of Agriculture, with its huge resources and immense staff, was employing just one person to keep watch on this crucial aspect for the survival of life on this planet. (Incidentally, the Audubon Society shows other figures which indicate that per capita use of the world's resources, except of fish, has not grown in the last 40 years, leaving one with the irrefutable fact that it is population growth itself that is increasing the pressure.)

One last point: at the weekend the *Globe and Mail* published a superb article by correspondent Stephanie Nolen about Stephen Lewis, the former Canadian politician who is now the UN Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Africa. Nolen went with Lewis to Zambia, where he visited places in which most people appear to have been already infected, and where the life expectancy has dropped in recent years from 58 years to 37. In Lewis's opinion, whole nations are in the process of unravelling as tens of thousands of people are dying

By Boyce Richardson

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FUNNYMAN LIVES!

Okay, okay, okaaaay! I'm not funny! So what, maybe you are, but go ahead. Make my face wrinkled with laughter with your banal jokes and offside humour. Who cares, jokes are supposed to be fun, right? Wrong! Jokes are supposed to maim and torture those who are at the butt of the joke and can cause serious psychological behavior at later stages of their development (look at the patterns: when jokes are inflicted on young ones and who later turn into machete-wielding body-part hackers wearing goalie masks, a la Jason). When someone laughs at you, you feel ridiculed and inept and feel like crawling away. But not me, man. I have a way that spurns and quadruples the joke and returns it to back to its prankster and reduces the wannabe-hurt-me-if-you-can into a quivering and whimpering red-cheeked and greatly humbled buffoon. Yes I can be funny, but not at the expense of poor people who cannot afford to buy the latest *Mad* magazine. I like to target my easy prey on those who dare to wield the power granted to them by the unknowing voting masses. Yes, I am an apolitical joker.

Now, how about that? Remember in the past when life was easier and jokes and laughter often erupted when a lone goose was shot at endlessly by an excited and cross eyed hunter and the lucky fowl lived to procreate again. Or when goose blind jokes such as marking up one's face with ashes from a still burning fire turned seasoned hunters into helpless quaking masses of human flesh? Or how about the now famous telephone pranks when one asked at a busy restaurant for Mr. Mike Hawk (how Bart Simpson would have loved to hear that one national television).

Well, that art of humour does have to be tactful and tasteful to be able to reach the dimmest minds, even subconsciously coming back to one's memory many weeks later when the punch line hits you, you're often considered to be a candidate for living in the small town of Malartic or South Porcupine. This actually happened to a good friend of mine, who I once told a sordid joke to, only to see him look back at me quizzically. I thought that I had lost

my touch, until, one night six weeks later, he started laughing and laughing hysterically.

His wife thought he had finally gone bonkers when all he could choke out was my name and some senseless words like "and I gave her my shorts." She called me to tell me that I shouldn't tell him any more jokes because it just freaked her out. What can you say when your husband, out of the blue and in bed, starts laughing and saying the great one's name and repeating the punch line over and over again? Call Malartic, that's what. Apparently, he was out of control for about an hour or so and when he recovered, he had to tell the joke to his worried lady and that spurned another hour of tears streaming down his face and stomach cramps that lasted for days.

I rest my case. I happen to be a funny guy. (If you want to hear the joke, I'll accept an all expense paid trip to your home town just to tell you. Make sure that the ambulance is nearby in case you get a stroke. Also, double check to see that you have a good insurance policy that covers joke attacks.)

Yes, I have graduated into reaching out to the dear readers of the *Nation* magazine and have succumbed to encouraging people to stand up for their rights while singing to some ditty like "All I want for Christmas is my AIP" or "Do you think I'm busy?" Sometimes I do get flack from offended readers but most often I can garner a chuckle or two (and on occasion, a guffaw) from even the sternest politician, who have learned over the last four years, that yep, this guy can be a funny man. I even have people who tell me that they can read between the lines and decipher my underlying messages. Good for them, at least someone is reading something good, even if there are no words hidden between the lines and my subliminal messages only encourage one to do better with their sorry lives. Maybe, one day, I will graduate to being a healer, where only my words will cure all symptoms of depression (and give the makers of Prozac a run for their money), but hey, who am I kidding?

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The Nation

SNC-Lavalin to build artillery test site in Cree territory



By Steve Bonspiel

SNC Technologies,

a subsidiary of SNC-Lavalin has put forth a proposal to build a long-range artillery test site near Chibougamau. The site would be used to test 105-millimetre shells being manufactured for the Canadian armed forces as well as NATO.

A similar range was partially closed down in 1999 at Nicolet. That range still operates today, but the long-range testing has been shelved.

Paul Dixon, one of the people who would be most affected by this range because of the proximity to his trap-line knows he's not alone, "a lot of people down south are opposing this, somebody took an excerpt from a web site for me, and that's when I found out that a lot of people down south are opposed to even firing ranges for revolvers for the police. These are big shells."

Dixon is also part of the Cree Trappers Association, which has already met with SNC-Lavalin to discuss this proposal. "Everybody down south is saying not in my back yard, what am I supposed to say? Also, down there they're saying it's going to disrupt tourism, what about me? It's not going to disrupt anything that I do?"

"In that meeting (with SNC-Lavalin) people were very strongly opposed to the firing range, especially the few guys that have hunting cabins not far from there, they're going to be staring down the barrel of the gun."

Emile Laroche, vice-president of operations at SNC Technologies assured people that "based on results of the first study, we did not expect much impact" the proposed range would have on the local fauna.

According to Chibougamau mayor, Donald Bubar, the land in question is under the jurisdiction of the municipality of James Bay, thus the non-native mayors who make up the council have already voted for zoning to allow the range.

"I think the mayor is talking through his hat," quipped Dixon, who adds there would be five or six more Dixon families affected by the project.

The chief of Waswanipi, Robert Kitchen, could

not be reached for comment, but according to Dixon, "I like the chief, he will respect the trappers' decision, that's what he's saying and that's a comfort, rather than what the mayor was saying, like he was a conqueror, he wanted to conquer me, and it sounds like he wanted to shove the projects down our throats."

What if the project doesn't go through, or there are protests? "We're always open to discussion," Laroche said.

Dixon remains frustrated: "I think we're living in a fake world where people that want to develop here in the north come up and come with an agreement saying if this project goes for another 40 years we guarantee you're still going to hunt around this area, they don't know what they're talking about, every time the government comes around we're always tempted at what we're going to get, it's not what we're going to lose, they never look at what we're going to lose."

Kiskimaastakin camps receive funding from Quebec

Quebec will provide \$163,900 in financial assistance for the Kiskimaastakin hunting and fishing camps.

The assistance will be used to develop an outfitting establishment in the LA-1 reservoir sector at James Bay and will result in the creation of 10 seasonal jobs. This outfitting establishment will offer caribou hunting, fishing adventure, and eco-tourism activities. "The market for this type of business is expanding rapidly in Northern Quebec, and our region is considered a choice destination for hunting and fishing," said Michel Letourneau, Minister for Native Affairs and the Development of Northern Quebec.

For his part, Richard Legendre, Minister responsible for Wildlife and Parks, said that he was "very happy to support this outfitting establishment project, which is in line with the government strategy to promote the economic development of resource regions and which will offer a new product that appeals to clientele from both Quebec and outside Quebec."

In loving memory of you, Dad, on your Birthday

A belated birthday greeting going out to my late Dad John Neeposh, who has gone to be with the Lord in Heaven on October 27th 2002. He celebrated his first Birthday as an angel on January 11th 2003. I miss you Dad, I miss you coming through my door and calling out "Boy," I miss the way you would put your cap on, putting it on sideways and twisting it straight, I miss the way you used to wear your joggers, especially your forest green ones, I miss the way you would gain weight in the summer and lose it in the fall when you went back to the bush, I miss the way you would scratch your head when you would wake up. I miss your smile, the one that made you look like you were always up to something, I miss your long thumbnail, the one you referred to as weapon, in case if someone jumped you. I miss the beard that you would grow in the fall, the one that made you look like a dangerous person, I miss how you would laugh in your little corner, so quietly, I even miss your smelly feet, I miss you at your house, I miss you beside Mom when she takes her naps, I miss you driving and escorting Mom here and there and the way you took good care of her, I miss you in your vehicle where you sat so many times, so patiently, waiting on Mom or your passengers or even outside my house waiting for me to come home after work. I miss you outside the store with the other elders and the stories that you would bring from there, I miss you watching Cowboys and Indians and start talking about going to war, I miss the scar on your neck, the one that you would lie about, getting it fighting in the war, I miss your home cooked meals, especially your euyas bangeek with onions, the one I would always ask you to make me, I miss cooking for you, especially ditchgachew meechum when you would come back from the bush. I miss everything about you, but no matter how much I miss you, I would never wish you back here with us, because I know that you have gone to a better place and through other peoples dreams, I know that you are happy there and I couldn't have wished more for you. Last night I asked God to give me a dream, a dream of you, so that I can hug you, kiss you again and tell you that I miss you, I love you and that I will always love you. I'm sure God heard my prayer and maybe my message was already delivered to you. Anyway, I just wanted to wish you a Happy Belated Birthday Dad.

Love, your majajooshansh Edna.

(I hope the Nation delivers to Heaven...)

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Editorial: My thoughts on 2003

from this disease, leaving untold numbers of orphans, and no one to care for them. Confronting this disease, and the evident disinterest of those with money in the developed world, says Nolen, seems to be in the process of driving Lewis out of his mind. Nolen describes a truckstop at which truckers meet the hordes of prostitutes, 80 per cent of whom are infected, and pay them almost twice as much for sex without a condom as with a condom. The prostitutes, desperate to keep body and soul together for themselves and their families, take the higher money: the truckers then return to their wives and families, and, inevitably, infect them. This is a nightmare scenario.

Perhaps it is just another example of what is wrong with us humans. Why do we fail to provide the \$50 a person that would halt the rampaging epidemic in Africa, a mere \$10 billion in total — while the United States spends untold trillions of dollars on the military forces with which it seems intent on controlling the world?

Another remark on the periphery: the sober and respected Ottawa commentator, Craig McKie, recently commented on a discussion about whether Canada would ever join with the United States. In his piece he wrote:

"I am horrified with what the US is turning into and I am sure I am not alone in this. Living 10 miles north of the 4th Reich will not be easy."

It seems, as my wife says, that we are the worst of species. Thus my happy thoughts for 2003.

Boyce Richardson's website is:

<http://www.magma.ca/~brich>

An extraordinary array of talented Aboriginal youth applied for funding through FAAY this year.

Check who our 2003 recipients are at www.caab.com at the end of February. You'll be amazed at the talent in Canada!

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VMS ELEMENTARY GROWS

Briefs



As with each New Year, there is a reason to celebrate. Voyageur Memorial School's students from Grade 4 to Grade 6, teachers, support staff, and special guests welcomed 2003 with the opening of the elementary school's extension. This celebration was partially because of this new addition to the building, but mainly that all elementary students would finally be together again.

The elementary school was too small to hold all of the students from Grade 1 to Grade 6. Some classes had to move to the high school when it was built. We were split up in two schools. Brendan Coon-Come said, "I felt I was not even a part of the high school because so many big kids were around me. I was not comfortable." "I felt that I didn't belong to any of the schools," expressed Mary-Jane, along with other students in the class. Finally, the plans to build an extension to the elementary school were approved and construction started in the spring. Just before Christmas, teachers and students were told to pack and get ready to move to a new class. We were so excited to start our New Year in a new school.

On January 7, 2003, all the classes from Grade 4 to Grade 6 joined in the gym with their teachers. The guest speakers included Harry Meskino, Chief John Longchap, Dorothy Nicholls (Vice-Principal), Hal Graham (Anglican Minister, Alain Bellemare (Principal), Beverly Quinn (School Commissioner), and Alfred Coonishish (C.E.A.). All addressed the students and then took part in the ribbon cutting. Outstanding students from Grade 6: Krystyna MacLeod, Patricia Mianscum, Verona Trapper, and Lisa Taylor also took part by holding the ribbon. Following the

ceremony, classes took their first tour of the new section and celebrated in class with a light lunch.

Regular classes resumed in the afternoon where students were asked for their impressions of the move to this new school. This is what some students had to say: When we went in the school, we were so excited for our new section. Everything shone new! Everything was so incredibly perfect! We are honoured. We are sure everybody feels that way. Everyone likes their new classrooms. Our class has a better view here of the track-and-field, the lake, and the community. In this school, there are no disruptions like the ones we had at the high school. Jerica Jolly says, "I feel good and excited that I moved to a new school." We like that we have new furniture and bigger hallways. "Amazingly, I think it changed students attitudes toward school! Now we can start our own activities because we feel like a part of a school," exclaims Alexandria MacLeod. In the new extension, we have a new computer lab with new computers and even a library. We are all so proud of our new school.

We feel excited because we are in our new extension. It is also more comfortable because we are the same age students. We finally belong to a school and feel like elementary students.

This article is a collaborative effort by all students in Grade 6 E (Kimberly Quinn's class): Jessica Chewanish-Longchap, Brendan Coon-Come, Georgina Coonishish, Stacey-Ann Coonishish, Tyler Coonishish, Carla Iserhoff, Jerica Jolly, Alexandria MacLeod, Krystyna MacLeod, Natasha Mattawahish, Andrea Mianscum, Gordon Mianscum, Kitty Neeposh, Mary-Jane Petawabano, and Jordan Shecapio.

Tragedy in Mistissini

A youth from Waskaganish died in Mistissini Jan. 19. Jeremiah Cheezo, aged 19, was killed in an accident after borrowing a snowmobile to do some late night skidooing. Mistissini Police say a combination of high speeds and unfamiliarity with the Mistissini terrain led to his death. Cheezo was found by some Mistissini residents, who reported the accident to the police at around 1:40 am. Police officer Isaac Voyager found the youth still alive at 1:42 but with troubled breathing. He was pronounced DOA by a Mistissini doctor at 2:20.

Mistissini police would like to warn snowmobilers to go slow when you don't know the area. The police also remind you that alcohol and driving don't mix. You can lose your driver's license if you drink and drive and that includes snowmobiles.

Police scoop booze and pot in Nunavik

The Kativik Regional Police Force have seized quantities of hard spirits and close to a kilo of marijuana as part of a campaign against the flow of contraband booze and drugs into the Nunavik region.

On Jan. 15, acting on tips, KRPF police in Kangirsuk seized 67 grams of marijuana at the community's airport, after intercepting a female suspect with a box containing blue jeans stuffed with packages of marijuana. She was questioned and later released pending charges.

During another seizure in Kangirsuk, police nabbed 12 illegally ordered 40-ounce bottles of vodka. On Jan. 17, again acting on a tip, KRPF police in Kangisualujuaq seized a shipment of 235 grams of high-grade marijuana at the airport.

Also on the 17th, KRPF police in Inukjuak seized 27 12-ounce bottles of vodka as well as three packages containing 75 grams each of marijuana. A male suspect was arrested and released on his own recognizance.

In Kuujuaq KRPF police seized a case of 40-ounce bottles of vodka as well as 250 grams of marijuana. Smaller amounts of alcohol and drugs were also seized in Umiujaq and Kuujuaaraapik along with drug paraphernalia.

AFN plans opposition to "three C's"

The Assembly of First Nations is planning a "proactive resistance" to bills C-7



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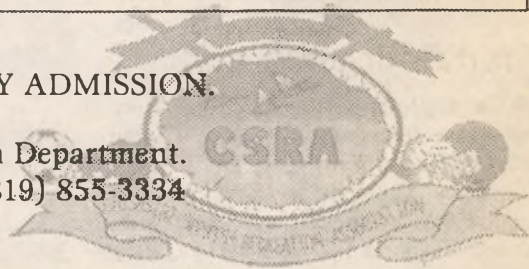
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(The First Nations Governance Bill), C-6 (Specific Claims Bill), and C-19 (The First Nations Statistical Management Act).

The action plan is in two phases. The first calls for the First Nations to convince Canadians and the federal government to withdraw all three bills. Secondly, AFN wants the First Nations to encourage Ottawa to enter into an alternative dialogue on Aboriginal issues that is built on past progress and legal principles.

AFN is even reported to be planning a command centre at its Ottawa headquarters to coordinate efforts against the bills as the House of Commons begins three weeks of national public hearings on the legislation.

AFN National Chief Matthew Coon Come is scheduled to provide testimony on the Governance Bill on Jan. 28 to the House of Commons standing committee on Aboriginal affairs. Coon Come and other critics of the bill say it reduces the First Nations from sovereign nations to municipalities that do not have control over how their own governments are elected or even who is allowed to run for office.

Mohawks know their lacrosse sticks

A First Nations-owned and -operated company from Akwesasne will be supplying lacrosse sticks to the National Lacrosse League for the upcoming season.

The Mohawk International Lacrosse, the leading manufacturer of lacrosse sticks in Canada, beat out larger manufacturers in the United States to win the contract for the 12-team professional league.

Company president Mark Mitchell said the contract would allow Mohawk International to expand its market into the U.S. where interest in lacrosse has increased in recent years.

The company made an estimated 10,000 lacrosse sticks last year, ranging in price from \$65 to \$250 (Cdn.) for a hand-made wooden goalie stick.

Mohawk International also provided lacrosse sticks to the Iroquois National Lacrosse team that competed in the world championships in Australia last year.

Alberta adoption crisis

A Calgary social services is trying to find good homes for several First Nations children up for adoption.

According to the Rocky View Child and Family Services, there is a serious shortage of First Nations families as potential adopters for over 30 Native children in the agency's care.

"There is a need for First Nations chil-

dren, if at all possible, to be raised with First Nations families," said Gloria Haddow, manager of Native service for Calgary Rocky View. "People who are not Native can empathize with the situation, but they can't truly know the difficulties [Native children] go through."

The children waiting to be adopted are Natives from across Canada, but the majority of them are from Alberta. The agency hopes that families can be found for the children in the area where they are from to maintain cultural ties to their heritage.

More information on adopting the children is available by contacting Calgary Rocky View at (403) 297-2789.

Métis National Council president refuses to resign

The Métis National Council has retreated from a Jan. 6 announcement that its troubled president Gerald Morin would be returning to his duties and has asked for his resignation.

The MNC board of governors reached the decision after it learned the details of a Dec. 11. incident in which Morin allegedly assaulted a woman in his Ottawa hotel and was formally charged with assault and criminal mischief.

"The Board of Governors will not condone, in any way, any violence by its leadership and has a zero tolerance for any violence against women in our communities and within society as a whole," said a statement by the board Dec. 8.

"Unfortunately, by his actions Mr. Morin has lost the confidence of the leadership of the Métis Nation. Therefore, the Board of Governors felt that under the circumstances there was no option but to ask for his resignation."

Morin has refused to resign, but has been temporarily replaced by Audrey Poitras, president of the Métis Nation of Alberta. A special meeting of the MNC must now be scheduled to review the Morin affair and how the organization plans to proceed.

"I understand that alcohol has become a destructive factor in my life and this incident is the final warning sign for me to deal with the problem," said Morin in a December press release following the incident.

Residential abuse case update

The Anglican Diocese of Saskatoon announced that it has contributed \$300,000 towards a national \$25 million

fund to compensate Natives who were sexually and physically abused in residential schools that the denomination ran on behalf of the Government of Canada.

Statements from the diocese said its 50 congregations and clergy members were able to do something positive to show the victims they really do care what happened to them.

Appeals are also being filed by victims' lawyers and Ottawa of a ruling made by Justice T.F. McMahon, of the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench, that said the Anglican Church could not be held liable for damages in the abuse suits in the province because the residential schools were run by the Missionary Society of the Anglican Church and not the church itself.

Scientists to cultivate ancient herbs

For generations, Native American tribes of the American Southwest have used three medicinal herbs – yerba mansa, cota and osh – to treat a number of ailments. Often considered sacred plants, these healing herbs grow wild.

Now researchers at New Mexico State University want to know if these elder plants can be cultivated as organically grown crops. "The main goal of this study is to find out whether we can bring these native plants under cultivation as high-value alternative crops for small-scale local growers," said Charles Martin, an NMSU researcher.

Martin noted that there's quite a bit of information on the medicinal properties of these plants, but little about how to grow them. "We're really at the forefront of this issue," he said. "Among other things, we'll be looking at the effect different irrigation levels and weed control measures have on yields and chemical properties of these species."

Known for its distinctive, spinach-like leaves, yerba mansa is recognized for its anti-inflammatory, antibacterial and antifungal properties, Martin said. Its aromatic roots are said to be reminiscent of a cross between camphor and eucalyptus.

Cota, which has radiant yellow flowers and long slender stalks, has been used for centuries in medicinal teas to treat ailments such as upset stomachs and toothaches.

Osh, which can be identified by its celery-like leaves, white flowers and potent smelling root, has strong antibacterial and antiviral qualities, and is often used to treat colds and flu, he said.

Field trials begin in March.

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of long hair and one strand of short hair. He slung the ears onto his back and headed home.

When he got home, he ate. After, he told his sister, "I've killed Kaachiituushkw – the one who killed our mother and father." His sister started crying again. "Don't be so foolish. Nobody can ever kill that beast." Chikaapaash insisted, "I'm telling you, I did kill Kaachiituushkw. Go outside. You'll see the big ears we can use to cover our lodge." His sister went out and saw the giant ears.

Chikaapaash asked his sister, "Which of our parents had long hair and had short hair?" The sister kept on crying and answered, "Our mother had very long hair and our father had short hair." Chikaapaash said, "I've brought back our parents hair. You'll keep our mother's hair and I'll keep our father's hair. Whenever we are fortunate to eat rich food, be sure to remember our mother's hair and grease it and I'll do the same with our father's hair." This was the story told about him.

Translator's note: Kaachiituushkw might be the prehistoric mammoth – the name might refer to the rigid tusks. The ritual for smearing grease on the hair is considered a blessing and is an act of respect.

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THE CBC'S KRISTY SNELL

ANCHORED IN HER HERITAGE

by tsa

Since 1991, our taxpayer-funded broadcast network has been mandated to "reflect the multicultural and multiracial nature of Canada." Success can be measured in different ways, but there are more women, people with disabilities and aboriginal people working at the CBC; certainly more than we see on the private networks. Over 90 aboriginal people now toil for the network. You don't often see them reporting on the daily news shows, though there are three aboriginals who have not only broken onto the reporting scene, but have become news anchors. And they're all women.

Carol Morin, the host of *Canada Now/Northbeat* in Yellowknife, became the first aboriginal anchor back in 1989 when CBC *Newsworld* went on the air. Her name was Carol Adams then, and she has a Cree and Chipewyan background. Carla Robinson became an anchor for the CBC morning newscast in 2001. Robinson, from BC, is of Haida and Heiltsuk ancestry. The third is Kristy Snell. While not currently a permanent anchor, she often fills in for Dennis Trudeau right here at CBC Montreal. Snell is a product of Sioux and Cree ancestors.

Snell knew she wanted to be a journalist by the fifth grade. At 18, she approached the *Moose Jaw Times Herald* to ask if she could be their arts reporter. She laughs now as she remembers the princely 52 cents per column inch she earned for her copy. The next year she went to the local radio station asking for a tour, bombarding them with questions. Her curiosity piqued their interest and she was asked to do a voice test, and read a copy of the local news and the weather. The station offered her a job on the spot, doing the overnight shift as a DJ playing the "favorites of today and yesterday."

After completing one year of a broadcasting diploma and an internship, she finally landed a radio news-reporting job. She was even part of a trio billed as "Tom, Jeff and Kristy in the morning." Snell soon discovered that to be her toughest job because, she says, "I'm just not a funny person." A co-worker suggested she apply to CTV Regina, ending up at CTV Saskatoon, where her first television news report was about the local fair. At 22, Snell became one of the youngest journalists to anchor the news for CTV Saskatchewan. After making the move to CBC Saskatchewan, she co-hosted the evening newscast while completing a B.A. in English. She came to CBC Montreal in 2001, which is where you can find her these days, filing reports for the daily news and current affairs, and filling in on the anchor desk.

Snell is from the Sioux community of Standing Buffalo in Saskatchewan. Her grandfather is Cree. She is also an adoptee, with an adopted Cree brother and an adopted metis sister. She has re-established ties with her biological family and her community. "Being aboriginal is something that is hugely important to me," she says, especially as she is ready to give birth to her first child.

She's proud to be one of the few aboriginal reporters in the mainstream news arena. Snell does worry about exploiting the situation though, and does not want to be seen as a token native reporter. She has worked hard at being a good journalist. Snell



says that she isn't given more than her share of Native content stories, nor does she specifically ask for them. Still, her aboriginal heritage has had its advantages in the sense that when she meets and interviews native people, they feel much more at ease talking with her when they learn she is native.

It has also allowed her to pitch some stories that otherwise would not have made the national news and she has worked with people at CBC North to bring some stories to the rest of Canada. In the spring of 2002, her documentary on a deadly disease afflicting the Cree (Cree white matter disease) was even submitted for a Gemini nomination.

Snell recognizes the pressure to do well, because there are native people across the country who see her and might identify with her. She also brings a native face to the rest of the country, challenging negative stereotypes.

Snell says that the most difficult part of the job is "when you see people die, or people suffering. These scenes are horrendous, you realize that it could be you. It really makes you aware that everything is special." She says that the best part of the job is meeting people who inspire her, "the average person who is just so powerful, you get to see the power of the human spirit which is always uplifting."

For all those aspiring journalists, she offers these words of wisdom: "Just believe in yourself. There is so much in this world. If you just believe in yourself, you're going to be fine."

Down Oaxaca Way

by Will Nicholls



Since it was really cold recently here in Montreal I accepted a invitation to see an Aboriginal Art exhibition at the Mexican Consulate January 23rd. There were tons of photos of Mexico in all its warmth. Even though it might have been in the minus-30s with the windchill factor I felt strangely warm as I imagined myself in sunny Mexico.

Whenever you visit another country or place people seem to look for that old world charm. In the case of Aborigines, if you're like me you tend to look for that Native old world charm.

The photos and artwork were of Oaxaca City (pronounced wah-HAH-kah) and the surrounding region. This, according to one of my new friends, Manuel Avila, one of the photographers, is one of the most traditional areas in all of Mexico. So much so that the United Nations have given it a U.N. World Heritage Site status. Some of the surrounding villages have an 8,000-year-old history. There are 2,300 archaeological sites in the area and the Natives there are descendents of the Zapotec and Mixtec Indians. Long before the Spanish arrived they had built great stone cities.

If you visit you will see traditional life complete with old style markets where a village will specialize in a certain craft or type of art. Native cuisine is always available.

I was told that one of the two must-see sites were these petrified waterfalls. They were formed thousands of years ago and at the top



the source of the fall was made into a large spring. Today it is a natural warm water spa. With the winter chills this would be the place to go to soak those bones. The water while not boiling is warm enough at 71 degrees F.

Oaxaca is one of the most biologically and culturally diverse Mexican states. It has over 450 species of butterflies, 4,000 types of plants, six cat species in the forests and is home to endangered species like the spider monkey and the tapir. The World Wildlife Fund says that this is one of the richest and most varied pine-oak forests in the world.

With all this going for it Oaxaca also has a number of famous artists to come out of the region including Miguel Cabrera, Rufino Tamayo, Rodolfo Nieto, Rodolfo Morales, Luis Zarate and Francisco Toledo.

Seeing the photos and artwork, I can well believe it. People wishing to find out more about this region can go to: www.oaxaca-travel.com.

Anyone wishing to see the collection of photos can see them at Alebrijes at 4727 St. Denis in Montreal. There will be a showing on February 13. The exhibition is well worth it.



·ΔσV·

Weeneebeg Aboriginal Film and Video Festival



March 5 – 9, 2003

Moose Factory, Ontario

The Weeneebeg Aboriginal Film and Video Festival is a five-day event that will showcase a variety of films and videos by local and regional Aboriginal filmmakers in several venues around the community of Moose Factory.

The festival also aims to provide a venue for resource information in media arts to assist and support the development of a new generation of artists pursuing a career in film, video and television.

The role of media arts in the preservation and promotion of the Cree way of life, culture and language is another aspect that the festival will represent through its selection of films/videos and invited filmmakers, as well as in the festival's panel discussions, seminars, information sessions, booths and workshops.

For more information contact:

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Moose Factory Tel: (705) 658-6987



BECOMING A DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER



by Paul M. Rickard

As part of Beesum Communications involvement with the Weeneebeg Aboriginal Film and Video Festival, we will be printing various articles about the filmmaking process by Paul M. Rickard, the Executive Director of the festival. This is part two of a six part series that The Nation will publish.

PART TWO: SCHOOL AND TRAINING

There is a saying in the film business: "you're only as good as your last job", which is quite true. If you do a good job on one production, you are likely to be hired on another, but if you do a bad job (for example, bad lighting or sound) word gets around that you screwed up and won't be hired again!

So it's a good thing to practice your art to become even better at it. If you're doing camera, sound or editing, it's a learning process and one should continue to practice and learn from experience, which I think is the best way to become a even better filmmaker. This way you learn what works and what doesn't. It's also important to review your own work and be your own critic.

But learning from experience is just one part of improving your craft. There are other options, such as training or schooling. These two options offer different things in filmmaking. For me, I always wanted to be a director or a screenwriter. After high school I decided to apply to film schools, such as York University or Concordia in Montreal. As part of the application process I had to write essays on why I wanted to be a filmmaker, critique a documentary and feature film of my choice. I chose a documentary called *Pixote* about homeless children in Mexico and the feature film was one of my all time favorite films, *Blue Velvet* directed by David Lynch. I also had to attend a meeting with directors of the film departments, where they basically asked why I wanted to be a filmmaker and reviewed my essay. But for one reason or another, I didn't make the cut. I was devastated. I didn't know what I did wrong and thought I would never make it as a filmmaker. Also it meant I had to wait another year to try again and reapply. But I decided not to give up. I looked at my options and looked at journalism programs, and applied to the Program in Journalism for Native People at the University of Western Ontario in London.

Although it wasn't what I had planned, I thought journalism was an alternative that was close enough to become a filmmaker, as they both use the visual medium to tell stories. Although television journalism focuses on non-fiction stories, documentaries and news reporting, I am glad I took this road.

The course ran for 12 intensive months that learned writing, photography, radio broadcasting, interviewing, sound editing, television camerawork and on-camera reporting. Of all the courses and programs I found my calling: camerawork, shooting and composing with the camera, which was real exciting. The only thing I can say about schooling is that it provided me an overview of the different professions one can pursue as a career. Many of the people I went to journalism school with, most became reporters for newsprint and magazines, with a few radio broadcasters. Of 15 students that attend the journalism program I was the only one to pursue camerawork.

Following university, I decided to become a cameraman as my profession and it's still is to this day, but schooling was the only first step to becoming a successful filmmaker. Getting a job is another. After graduating, I applied to various news stations throughout the south, but was unsuccessful in getting a job, mainly because I didn't have the experience of real work outside of school. People are reluctant to

hire students out of school, and if they do, you usually start at the bottom or on a training program. My options were limited back in the early 80's and it was tough to get any breaks.

One thing I learned looking back at going to university was that it provided a great opportunity to learn other trades in the fields and it's a good idea to come out with a technical skill such as camerawork or sound recorder. These are the jobs that pay your rent. Being a director is something you strive and work hard towards, and it's hard to get hired without experience. But a technical skill is something you can take with you anywhere and if you do a good job, it'll lead to others. I have worked as a cameraman for three years at Wawatay Native Communications in Moose Factory where I improved on my profession. I still feel very fortunate to work at Wawatay, not only to do camerawork, but also to work within my own community and with the Cree language. In fact, the work I did at Wawatay opened my eyes to what I wanted to do as a filmmaker - make films about the Cree people and other Aboriginal people.

At Wawatay, I also learned to be an editor. For example, as a cameraman you learn to compose different shots to make a story flow visually when assembling the footage. After three years at Wawatay, I felt I had to move as I learned all I could at Wawatay. I then applied to the National Film Board of Canada to a three-month internship program at the camera department and shoot real film stock. I received a training grant by the Moose Cree First Nation for half the training and the National Film Board contributed the rest. This also meant I had to move to Montreal - that was 13 years ago.

The training program was supposed to focus on using a 16 mm film camera and learn to shoot film. But after two months all I did was carry the tripod and equipment for other cameramen, which was a disappointment because I thought I was supposed to shoot some actual film stock. But that wasn't the case. So when my training contract came up, I made a complaint against the camera department that I did not learn what I was supposed to during my three-month training. After a few sessions with the camera department, they agreed to extend my training another three months and promised that I could shoot film. Not long after I got to do some camera test and practice using a light meter and different lenses and film stock. It was a lot different than using video camera that tends to be automatic and you really on that somewhat when shooting video. But using a film camera, you have to use various new tools to get the right exposure, just like using still camera in manual mode. It was exciting! I love shooting film, as it's something you can actually touch, feel, see and smell all at once, unlike videotape. My original three-month training program ended up being three years.

So what does this all mean? It means that learning your trade in film/video is a long and exciting journey and you're always learning something new. Schooling is just one part. I don't think most people become successful filmmaker/cameraman overnight. You learn for others, watching films and from your own work. I learned that you only get better with time and with a lot of practice. So keep practicing with what you choose to do, either being a cameraman, editor, writer, director or a sound person.

Paul M. Rickard is a filmmaker from Moose Factory, Ontario who has been involved in filmmaking for over 15 years. He directed "Okimah" and produced the series "Finding Our Talk" for APTN. In the next issue Paul will discuss directing his first film "Okimah" for the National Film Board of Canada and the struggles and rewards that came with it.

the Dogs Eat

by Will Nicholls

Aboriginal Peoples of Canada

Edited by Paul Robert Magocsi
University of Toronto Press 1999

A book for anyone seriously interested in Canada's Aboriginal peoples. Obviously, given that there are over 600 recognized bands (by the federal government), there cannot be an indepth consideration given to all of them in just 308 pages. But what is there is surprising coherent and accurate. It will give you a concise and needed look at who Aboriginals are and what they have done. It is a brief introduction to each of the Aboriginal Peoples with a little bit of history and relevant facts. It has some surprising information and as a Cree I can say the section on the James Bay Cree is a good starting point for everyone. I just wish I had this type of book when I was looking for information on other Aboriginal peoples.

As well as being a nice addition to your library it is a great reference book that you will find yourself picking up again and again.

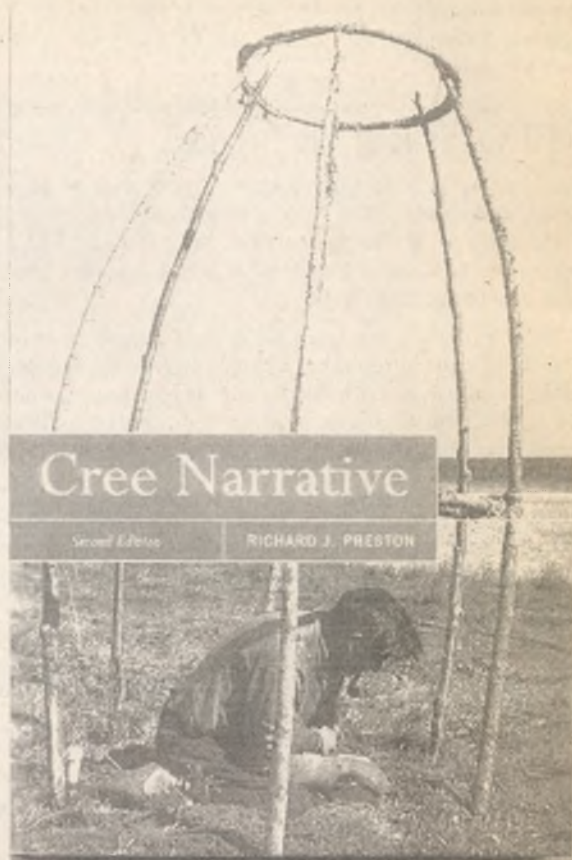
EDITED BY Paul Robert Magocsi



ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

OF CANADA

A SHORT INTRODUCTION



Cree Narrative

Richard J. Preston
McGill-Queens University Press 1975

This is a revised and expanded version of the original book. Simply put this is an awesome book that should be in any Cree home, school or library. It is a look at the traditional society of the Cree. When you read you will notice the small changes that go on in any society that is alive and vibrant. I noticed some of the changes in the walking out ceremony and understand that this book was used to look at the way a shaking tent was done.

The portrayal of the shaking tent sent shivers down my spine. It is a matter of fact account that all Crees should look at because it is told in Cree manner. Most of the book is based on interviews with John Blackned.

I enjoyed the beginning of the book when Preston arrives with his family in tow. While they were going around Waskaganish a small child saw them and rushed into the house. The Preston's later learnt that Whitemen were used as bogeymen to control Cree children. (A source for the book "The Whitemen's Gonna Getcha")

I fully recommend this book as it is well written, highly entertaining and informative to book. Waskaganish residents will recognize a few old friends in there as this book takes place in the 1960s and was finished in 1975.

"Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!" What Do You Care What Other People Think?"

Richard P. Feynman as told to Ralph Leighton
W.W. Norton & Company 1985, 1988

I normally don't read autobiographies. I find most of them self-serving and pompous. This double book was a pleasant surprise. It was utterly enjoyable.

Feynman is a renowned physicist. He solved the secret of liquid helium. He won a Nobel Prize for Physics. He worked on the A-bomb. He was thought to be mentally deficient by the Army. He painted a nude Roman slave girl for a massage parlor. He played a instrument called the frigideria (no idea!) in a Brazilian samba band and accompanied ballet on the bongos. He was also a amateur safecracker.

Quite the resume. It also means this was (he died in 1988) a very smart and very eccentric person.

His life and outlook on life was so interesting that I spent most of my time with my nose buried in the book. When I finished the first book I hurried on to the second.

One story I enjoyed was the one about 13 signatures. Feynman said he would do a talk if he got paid and only had to do thirteen signatures including signing the check. It was his fight against too much bureaucracy. The guy laughed and said no problem. Well you guessed it. Feynman writes his signature 12 times and saves the last signature for the check. When it comes time to get the check a nervous clerk says he has to sign for it. Feynman refuses: that wasn't the deal. Things eventually work out and he gets paid.

Feynman's way of looking at the world and the way he remembers it is one wonderous discovery after another. If you ever need a more positive outlook on life and a few laughs then this is the book for you.

Bestsellers list

As defined by the New YorkTimes.

1. CROSSROADS OF TWILIGHT, by Robert Jordan. (Tor/Tom Doherty, \$29.95.) The 10th volume in the fantasy series "The Wheel of Time."

2. THE LOVELY BONES, by Alice Sebold. (Little, Brown, \$21.95.) A 14-year-old girl looks down from heaven as she describes what happens in the aftermath of her kidnapping and murder. 2



3. SONS OF FORTUNE, by Jeffrey Archer. (St. Martin's, \$27.95.) Twin brothers who were separated at birth both decide to run for governor in Connecticut — but without knowing they are related.

4. THE ARRAIGNMENT, by Steve Martini. (Putnam, \$25.95.) The defense attorney Paul Madriani represents a man who he thinks may know something about the murder of a fellow lawyer.

5. FOUR BLIND MICE, by James Patterson. (Little, Brown, \$27.95.) Detective Alex Cross and his partner, John Sampson, try to prove that One of Sampson's oldest friends has been framed for murder.

6. BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON, by Dean Koontz. (Bantam, \$26.95.) A young man who has been injected with a mysterious substance finds himself drawn to crime scenes immediately before the crimes occur.

7. PREY, by Michael Crichton. (HarperCollins, \$26.95.) In the Nevada desert, a team of scientists tries to undo an experiment involving nanoparticles — moleculesized robots — that has gone disastrously wrong.

8. LIGHT IN SHADOW, by Jayne Ann Krentz. (Putnam, \$24.95.) An interior designer in Whispering Springs, Ariz., turns to a private investigator for help when her former life comes back to haunt her.

9. FOREVER, by Pete Hamill. (Little, Brown, \$25.95.) The history of New York City as seen through the eyes of Cormac O'Connor, an Irish immortal. • First Chapter

10. I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT

By Allison Pearson. (Knopf, \$23.) A 35-year-old woman in London struggles with her job, her children and her husband.

11. LIFE OF PI, by Yann Mattel. (Harcourt, \$25.) An allegory on the high seas, in which a teenage boy and a 450-pound tiger are thrown together in a lifeboat.

12. HORNET FLIGHT, by Ken Follett. (Dutton, \$26.95.) In 1941, as the Luftwaffe is shooting down R.A.F. bombers, a young Dane stumbles upon a German installation whose secrets he must try to convey to England.

13. THE LAST JIHAD, by Joel C. Rosenberg. (Forge/Tom Doherty, \$24.95.) A Wall Street wizard, close friend of the president of the United States, must help protect the country from nuclear attacks by Iraq.

14. WHISPERS AT MIDNIGHT, by Karen Robards. (Atria, \$25.) A woman returns to her Georgia hometown and becomes involved with the local sheriff.

15. ATONEMENT, by Ian McEwan. (Doubleday/Nan A. Talese, \$26.) A chronicle of the disintegration of an English family's idyllic life.

**Posting # 205
MINING ENGINEER**

Permanent (Engineering / Geology)

The Troilus Division is presently searching a MINING ENGINEER (Engineering/Geology) to join their young and dynamic management team. The Troilus Division is a gold and copper open pit mine with a mill capacity that has been upgraded to 15,000 tpd. The mine site is located at 175 km north of Chibougamau by way of the "Route du Nord". The selected candidate will work on a 7/7 schedule (7 days of work, 7 days off) and will be lodged at the site's first quality camp.

The Troilus Division is a gold and copper open pit mine with a mill capacity that has been upgraded to 15,000 tpd. The mine site is located at 175 km north of Chibougamau by way of the "Route du Nord". Any selected candidate will work on a 7/7 schedule (7 days of work, 7 days off) and will be lodged at the site's first quality camp.

Required qualifications :

Possess a university degree in mining engineering or the equivalent. Be eligible or to be member of L'Ordre des Ingénieurs du Québec. Have between zero and five (0 and 5) years of pertinent experience in open pit mine operations is an asset. Possess good skills in interpersonal relations and team work. Work on a 7/7 basic work schedule. Strong computer skills and knowledge of GEMCOM are a major asset. Possess good communication skills in french and in english (spoken and written). To have work experience in a multicultural environment is an asset.

Main responsibilities :

- Manage the short and middle term planning of the mine;
- Prepare the blast designs and the pit coordination;
- Insure the pit coordination by participating to different projects like : pump systems, time studies and pit design evaluations;
- Participate in the work coordination of both production teams in collaboration with the general foreman and the production foremen;
- Prepare operations and projects estimates, schedules and reports for other projects of the department;
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Inmet Mining Corporation offers a competitive salary. The position is addressed to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation encourages the hiring of Crees and thanks all applicants of their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Those interested are to send their Curriculum vitae, not later than **FEBRUARY 14, 2003** to :

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Inmet Mining Corporation
Troilus Division

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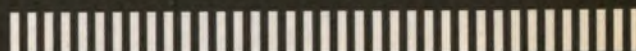
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URBAN NATIVE

by tsa

HE AIN'T HEAVY

When my oldest brother was 10, he stood up in class one day and told the teacher she was wrong. When he refused to apologize, he was sent to the principal's office. My mother was called in and told her usually polite and well-behaved son had been so rude and disrespectful to the teacher that he was going to be suspended.

After being told the story of what he had done, she promptly asked my brother why. He replied that the teacher had been going on about how Indians were all lazy and drunk. My mother was so filled with rage that she began to shake. She turned to the principal and gave him such a tongue lashing for allowing teachers to say such blatantly racist things that even a ten-year-old child knew were wrong, and how dare he threaten to suspend her son for standing up and speaking the truth.

It went further than that though, because it turned out that the school textbooks at the time were riddled with racist misinformation. My mother immediately took the matter up with the board of education and was responsible for having all the texts re-written. The year was 1976, in the predominantly white Anglo-Saxon suburb of Beaconsfield on the island of Montreal.

My brother knew the teacher was wrong because of me. Not because I had told him anything as such, however. When my parents adopted me they knew I was of native ancestry, so they made a point of educating us all about native people. Our home was filled with books, photos, sculptures and toys that portrayed natives and native culture in a very beautiful, positive light. In fact our bookshelves were lined with books about all visible minorities. As my parents were also foster parents, there were always children of all colours running around the house, who we considered our brothers and sisters for however long their stay was.

I had come into the picture not because my parents were looking to be heroes, villains or advocates of any cause, but rather simply because my parents had three sons and decided they wanted a girl to make the family complete. At the time, I was the one available for adoption. I doubt my parents knew what they were taking on when they adopted me. Besides the fact that I was a handful, (even on the way home from Winnipeg I was causing such a fuss in the arms of my mother that I accidentally ripped the earring from her ear, causing much bloodshed and pain) their adopting me did cause somewhat of an uproar in the community.

In the beginning they had to deal with the many stares from

curious onlookers and the looks of confusion when they introduced me as their daughter, so many explanations of me being adopted. They got sick of the sneers and disapproving looks from the uppity adults who couldn't understand why such a fine "white" family would want to adopt an "Indian" as their own.

Some people may say that what makes a family a family has everything to do with the shared blood that runs through the veins, rather than their shared history and shared experiences. Many people will look at two people of different skin tones or hair colour or eye colour or anything minute like that and deny that they could be related, not "really" related. Yet how many people will say they are family and then turn around and either figuratively or even literally stab a family member in the back, or turn their back on them in times of need and deny their existence? How many people who claim to be family have no love, loyalty or respect for each other?

The fact that I was of native ancestry never made a difference or caused great distress to anyone in our extended family. I never once had the sense that I wasn't just like any other member of the family. Even my nanny, who is technically my stepmother's mother and only became my grandmother when I was 14, is slightly offended if I don't mention her as a family member when relating any information about my family. To my brothers I have always been the younger brat of a sister and you can quote them on that, running around thinking I was a little white boy just like them. My oldest brother to this day always refers to anyone in the family as "blood," despite the fact that he too was adopted! And of course, you couldn't convince my parents or me for that matter, that they are not as "real" as any other parents.

My parents and many others like them, were pioneers, flinging in the face of all doubters that a family was only a family based on the DNA that was shared by all. Not only did they show that cross-cultural adoptions worked and were good, they inadvertently took on the task of educating everyone about native people. In a sense my parents were responsible for bringing a part of native reality to a corner of the world that was content to be ignorant and believe the negative stereotypes at the time. My parents gave my brothers and I one of the greatest gifts that any parent can give their children, which is unconditional love and respect for all people regardless of 'race', religion and gender. They also gave us the courage to speak out. My brother was only ten when he put those teachings into action and I can only conclude that we are all the better for it.



Gilles Coté
Sales Representative

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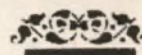
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Congratulations to Mr. Ted Moses,
Grand Chief of the Grand Council of
the Crees, who has been nominated
"Personnalité de l'année de la Presse".

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Is A Smoke-Free Workplace Too Much To Ask For?

If the warning labels that you find on cigarette packs suddenly appeared in places you never expected, would you stop and think twice before lighting up around others? You should, because second-hand smoke is harmful to all who come in contact with it—even your co-workers or people who serve you in restaurants. They have no choice but to breathe the 4,000 chemicals found in second-hand smoke—and that's dangerous to their health.

So please think twice before smoking cigarettes around others.

That's the good that you can do.



Un lieu de travail sans fumée, est-ce trop demander?

Si les avertissements que vous voyez sur les paquets de cigarettes apparaissaient soudainement dans des endroits inattendus, penseriez-vous deux fois avant d'allumer une cigarette en présence des autres? Vous devriez parce que la fumée secondaire est très nuisible à quiconque entre en contact avec elle — même à vos collègues de travail ou aux serveurs et serveuses de restaurants. Ils n'ont pas le choix de respirer les 4 000 composés chimiques qui se trouvent dans la fumée de cigarette — ce qui est dangereux pour leur santé.

S'il vous plaît, pensez-y deux fois avant de fumer en présence des autres.

C'est ce que vous pouvez faire de mieux.

Get the facts on second-hand smoke. Call: 1 800 0-Canada (1 800 622-6232) TTY/TDD: 1 800 465-7735 Visit us at: www.GoSmokefree.ca

Renseignez-vous sur la fumée secondaire de cigarette. Appelez au 1 800 0-Canada (1 800 622-6232) Télécopieur/ATME: 1 800 465-7735

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Important Message for Canada's Permanent Residents

Make your re-entry into Canada easier



Save time and money; obtain your Permanent Resident (PR) Card before you travel.

♦ **Who needs the new PR Card:** Permanent residents (landed immigrants) who travel internationally by commercial carrier will need a PR Card to return to Canada as of December 31, 2003. Canadian Citizens do not need a PR Card.

♦ **Where you need to show your PR Card:** If you are a permanent resident (landed immigrant) returning to Canada on a commercial carrier, you must show your PR Card to carrier personnel when boarding an airplane, boat, train or bus.

If you are a permanent resident travelling abroad without a valid PR Card as of December 31, 2003, you may not be permitted to board an airplane, boat, train or bus back to Canada. You may be referred to the closest Canadian embassy or consulate to obtain a limited use travel document. This may result in travel delays and extra costs for you.

♦ **Becoming Canadian:** Many permanent residents who can become Canadian citizens are encouraged to apply for their citizenship.

♦ **How to get your PR Card:** Application kits are available through Citizenship and Immigration Canada's web site (www.cic.gc.ca) or by calling the PR Card Call Centre (1 800 255-4541). Applications are being processed based on your year of landing. Check the chart to see in which month you should apply, and apply early. For example, if your year of landing was 1998, you should submit your application on May 1, 2003.



For information or application kits:

☎ 1 800 255-4541
TTY / TDD: 1 888 578-8502
○ www.cic.gc.ca

Canada

YEAR OF LANDING	WHEN TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION
2000 - 2002	January to April 2003
1996 - 1999	May 2003
1992 - 1995	June 2003
1988 - 1991	July 2003
1980 - 1987	August 2003
1973 - 1979	September 2003
Before 1973	ANYTIME

CLASSIFIEDS

*** TAKE NOTICE *** THE NATION HAS A NEW ADDRESS ***

Please send your material now to : 5647 avenue du Parc, P.O. Box 48036, Montreal, QC. H2V 4S8

100 – BIRTHS

Congratulations to Amanda Jonah & Merlin Whiskeychan on the birth on their Baby Girl Roselyn Grace born on Jan 1st, 2003 in Val D'or. Once again Congratulations. From Family and friends in Wask. **Also Happy Birthday** to Amanda on Jan 26, 2003.

101 – BIRTHDAYS

Happy 10th Birthday Amanda Quinn! Hoping your day is filled with fun with your friends. You are truly a special girl and loved very much. Love, Grandma, Grandpa, Kimmy, Jackie, and Catherine

I would like to say Happy 1st Birthday to Marlena Abraham on January 16, 2003,

Franklin Voyageur on January 17, 2003 and to Kobe Gilpin on January 29, 2003. They are all from Eastmain, Qc. Happy birthday to all you chubby babies and many more to come Florianne Gilpin (Eastmain, Que)oxoxox

Happy 80th Birthday to my grandfather, Edward Gilpin s.r on January 26, 2003. Happy Birthday grandpa and more to come. I will always remember what you and grandmma taught me for the past 9 years. Hope you will enjoy your day with the family for your 80th birthday. Love always Florianne Gilpin oxoxox (Eastmain, Que)

Charlie Calvin, OH MY GOD!!! You're turning 18 on February 13th,

2003. Its so hard to believe. Happy

Birthday, we hope its a good one, but don't party too much. Hope all your wishes come true. Love Always, Jolene and Ruthannah.

Happy blessed Birthday to my wonderful sister Fawn. I miss you dreadfully mysheem. I hope to see you soon. We'll go shopping and shopping. I love you and take good care of yourself. Joujemdin Nimhsh. Joshua with love XOXO

Happy belated Birthdays to my grandma Amy Niquanicappo on January 3rd 2003, to my aunty Betsy Masty on January 9th 2003, to my uncle who always makes us laugh, Joseph Niquanicappo on January 30th 2003, to my other uncle Robbie Niquanicappo on December 7th 2002 and last but not least to my cousin Noel Masty who turned 18 on December 25th 2002. Love, Mary Niquanicappo and also, belated Birthday to me on December 21st 2002.

Happy 32nd Birthday to Anst Shem on January 29th 2003 in Whapmagoostui. Do not party too much at the bar. Also, it is time to find a wife. Single women wanted for him.

Birthday wishes goes out to our 'big sister' Chantal Gull-Blacksmith on February 12th 2003. Hey Sis, hope you (I mean we) have fun on your birthday. We still love you even though you make us cry sometimes or all the time (ha, ha). Happy 6th Birthday! Love always, your little sisters Traci Bones & Feli (Waswanipi) xoxoxo

Happy 6th Birthday! To our first born daughter Chantal. You are getting so big, growing up so fast. You are very special girl to us, being our first-born. And you will be special to us in every way. We love you very much. Happy Birthday Girl! Love always, Mommy & Daddy XOXOXOX 1/2

102 – WEDDINGS

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Chris (Huberty Paul)Blackned and his new wife Twlya Linton on their wedding on January 18, 2003 in Mistissini. Take good care of her. We love u with both. From ur bros Jimbo, Bill, John, Kirby, Silas, Travis and Sis MaryAnn, Sharon, Cynthia

105 – OBITUARY

In loving memory of our Gookum Mary Gull. It has been almost a year since you departed from us. As each day goes by, you are in our hearts and there is not a single day that we don't think about you. We wanted to have you here a little longer but God took you away to be in a better place, maybe they needed more angels up in heaven, so He choose you. You must be so happy right now, being with our grandfather. We have so many memories of you. We will love you and miss you so much. Love always, and forever in our hearts. All the Gull families; Paul, Stella & children, Lillian, Joseph Blackned & children and grandchildren, Annette, Douglas HappyJack & children, Flora &

Matthew Blacksmith & boys, Henry, Teresa & children, Jennifer, Jacob Ottereyes & children, Sam, Holly & children & Louie, Greta Diamond & daughter, Tony, April & children, Maxine, Joey & girls, Deidre, Shawn & children. Gookum, you are sadly missed XOXOXO

To: A girl from Mistissini. I met at a dance on Saturday January 18, 2003, During the Mistissini Senior Tournament. I knew you long ago but this was the only time I got to talk to you when I was there. I slept in this morning, really slept deeply and warm...cozy. I woke to a well-lit room, which danced with sunshine and colour from a special day.

Birdsong outside of my window...the scent of jasmine in the air, so sweet and inviting. So like you. Smiling faces on strangers. Stray dogs stopping for attention. Still, this music was lost on me...wasted on me... Why? Easy to answer... you were not there to share it. I Really wanna see you From: a person you know... in Nemaska.

Hey B, I heard you were left out the last time I wrote a classified. So here it goes, I would like to say Hi and miss you too. Hi to the kids too, especially R. I wouldn't forget him, ha ha. I hope things are going great for you and your family. Maybe we'll drop a line sometimes or come by and visit, when you have the chance. Take care! Your friends, B and J.

To my secret pal in Chisasibi. Whitout forgiveness, you choose to keep your anger, without forgiveness, you choose to suffer, you have caused me much hurt and pain, I almost told your wife, but I wanted you to get on with your life. I forgive you. From A. in Waswanipi.

To my two best friends Sarah Atchynia and Rachel Kawapit Sheshamush. I just want to tell you how much you both mean to me. You have been there throught thick and thin. I can talk to about anything and not feel judged. I always think of you when I far. I love you both with all my heart and will keep you

in my prayers. I hope life treats you well and take care of your family and do not forget yourselves in the process. Love always Miss Mary.

mmmm,...I just wanna say hello to a Mistissini ennou in North Bay.HELLO! lol.I just hope he knows i'm talking about him,boy I never thought I'd miss U this much,sometimes I sit by the phone and don't even know why,were not even going out and were not even friends we just party together.which is sad,to me that is,,,lol,,buzz.well I just wanted to let U know that I really care about U and miss U alot,I know it'z kind of sick how i'm stuck on U,but I can't seem 2 let U go. Well I feel much better saying what I wanted 2 say. P.S. fell free 2 visit me again,...lol.u know where to find me,down kak straight..lol,,bye for now hope I'll c u soon.nnn heh,if not I'll C U in my dreams. Oh! I almost 4-got itz from somel back home who will always be there 4 u,whenever U feel alone.



The Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay is a Cree entity responsible for the administration of health and social services for all residents under its jurisdiction comprising nine Cree communities and their surrounding territories. We are presently seeking an innovative, dynamic leader with compassion, dedication and operational know-how to fill the following managerial position:

Director of CLSC Coastal – Chisasibi (Class 16 Under revision)

The CLSC Coastal in Chisasibi supervises health and social services for five coastal communities – Whapmagoostui, Wemindji, Eastmain, Waskaganish and Chisasibi. Working under the authority of the Assistant Executive Director, Services, and with the support of the Health Coordinator, you will develop, maintain, deliver, and evaluate health and social services for these five Cree Communities. Moreover, you will be in charge of the administration of human, material, financial and information resources.

The Director is specifically responsible for the following:

- participates in the definition and periodic review of the organization's mission, goals, management and service philosophies, and orientations.
- participates in developing plans for submission to the Assistant Executive Director on the distribution and use of the organization's funds and budgets in relation to annual and cyclical planning from the perspective of his/her area of responsibility.
- assists the Assistant Executive Director in providing appropriate supports to the various public groups of his/her region in order to facilitate their organization and development according to the policy of the organization.
- participates in the identification of the needs of the population, communities and organization for programs in areas of health and social services in collaboration with concerned managers.

Required Education and Experience:

- Masters degree in Administration with a Bachelors degree in Nursing or Social Work and 3-5 years experience in administration in a health or social services environment,
OR
Masters degree in Nursing or Social Work and 3-5 years experience in administration,
OR
Bachelors degree in Nursing, Social Work or Administration, with 5-7 years experience in administration and prior knowledge of the CBHSSJB.

Additional Requirements:

The CBHSSJB recognizes that no one individual is likely to meet all of the following criteria in equal measure; nevertheless the following background experience and personal qualities are desirable and will be sought in candidates:

- Knowledge of MSSQ regulations for CLSC and Hospital Health Services
- Knowledge of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, Section 14 is an asset
- Ability to effectively manage with line managers in a matrix organization
- Ability to both manage the planning and development of new services and programs, and the professional supervision and quality assurance development of existing services and programs
- Knowledge of Cree culture
- Knowledge of, or ability to grasp issues and context that relate to First Nation health and social services
- Superior communication and interpersonal skills
- Fluent in both English and French. Fluency in Cree is an asset
- Proven ability in promoting a strong team environment to develop and achieve shared goals and objectives
- Ability to engage health professionals in moving the organization forward through excellence and consistency
- Ability in developing, implementing and evaluating ethics, standards, norms, policies and procedures
- Willing to travel extensively
- Computer literate

Conditions:

According to the MSSQ standards, the employer provides the housing and shoulders the costs for the moving and storage. The employment conditions also include an isolation premium from \$6,640 to \$10,622, and 3 to 4 sorties depending on the incumbent's status (single or with dependents).

Qualified candidates should include a *statement of their philosophy of a First Nation Health and Social Services structure*, and mail, fax, or email their resume by February 22, 2003 to:



Conseil Cri de la santé et des services sociaux de la Baie James
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Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay

Human Resources Department
Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay
Chisasibi, Québec J0M 1E0

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We thank all applicants, but only those under consideration will be contacted for an interview.



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